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Cynthia D. Banks
Director
Otto Solórzano
Chief Deputy

June 11, 2013

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

22 June 11, 2013

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

APPROVAL TO TERMINATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM (DRP) CONTRACT FOR CONVENIENCE WITH THE LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT (LASC) (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Community and Senior Services (CSS) seeks approval to: 1) terminate the DRP Contract with the LASC for convenience as it would be in the best interest of the County; and 2) send the required Notice of Termination to LASC.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Determine that it is in the best interest of the County to terminate for convenience, the DRP Contract with LASC (Contract Number DRP-0914-015), effective June 30, 2013.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of CSS, or designee, to send the required written Notice of Termination to LASC, to become effective on June 30, 2013, no less than ten days after the Notice is sent.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

CSS is requesting the Board of Supervisors to determine it is in the best interest of the County to terminate, for convenience, the DRP Contract with LASC which currently provides DRP services Countywide. On March 1, 2013, LASC requested to terminate its Contract for DRP services due to rising operational costs and limited funding.

CSS selected currently procured DRP providers to provide court-connected DRP services that were previously provided by LASC.

The recommended actions will allow for the continued provision of court-connected DRP services throughout the County.

Performance Measures

The DRP standard of performance is indicated by the number of disputes contracted agencies resolve. CSS will assess agencies' performance through analysis of monitoring reports produced by CSS' Contract Compliance Division.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal 1: Operational Excellence.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

LASC's DRP allocation is \$712,728 for FY 12-13. However, CSS is projecting an overall 16 percent reduction in revenue for the program for FY 13-14. Given that the program is funded based on Court filings (\$8.00 per filing), with increasing Court closures, there are fewer filings, resulting in less funding for the DRP program overall for FY 13-14.

Therefore, LASC's allocated share of program funding, previously \$712,728, is anticipated to be reduced to \$598,692. Of this amount, CSS plans to utilize it as follows: 1) \$20,000 for marketing and outreach services to promote the DRP program in the community; and 2) \$578,692 for the three DRP providers selected to replace LASC to provide additional court-connected services Countywide.

There is no impact on the County General fund, as the DRP program is fully financed by the DRP Special Fund. Funding for this program has been included in the Department's FY 2013-14 Proposed Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On March 1, 2013, LASC requested in writing that its current Contract with CSS be terminated due to rising operational costs and limited funding. LASC currently provides court-connected services, which include small claims, limited, and general jurisdiction cases under the DRP program.

On March 19, 2013, CSS surveyed the current DRP providers to determine their interest and ability in providing additional DRP services that were previously provided by LASC, and received responses from nine providers. The following criteria were used to evaluate which provider(s) would be best to provide services previously provided by LASC: 1) prior court-connected service experience; 2) performance; and 3) ability to meet service needs.

Based on those criteria, the following three DRP providers were determined to be the most qualified to provide court-connected services previously provided by LASC: 1) Center for Conflict Resolution; 2) California Academy of Mediation Professionals; and 3) Los Angeles County Department of Consumer Affairs. CSS will notify the CEO and Board Offices in advance of executing contract amendments to be effective July 1, 2013. As granted by the Board of Supervisors in March 2009,

CSS has delegated authority to execute contract amendments as needed through June 30, 2014.

CSS is currently working with LASC to ensure the transition process is seamless and that there is no break in services.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

In October 2008, CSS released a Request for Proposals soliciting proposals from agencies to provide DRP services. A total of thirteen agencies were recommended for funding. LASC was awarded a DRP contract for court-connected services for a five-year term through June 2014. All current DRP contracts expire on June 30, 2014.

Monitoring Requirement

Monitoring of the DRP continues to be conducted on an annual basis and includes administrative and programmatic monitoring to ensure contract compliance. Program monitoring is accomplished through CSS' Contract Compliance Division. Beginning in FY 13-14, fiscal compliance monitoring will be conducted biannually by an approved vendor procured through the Auditor-Controller.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended actions will allow for the continued provision of DRP court-connected services Countywide.

CONCLUSION

Upon Board approval, please mail one copy of the adopted Board letter and its attachments to: Ms. Carol Domingo, CSS, 3175 West Sixth Street, Room 403, Los Angeles, CA, 90020. Ms. Domingo may be reached at (213) 639-6339.

Respectfully submitted,



CYNTHIA D. BANKS

Director

CDB:zr

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors